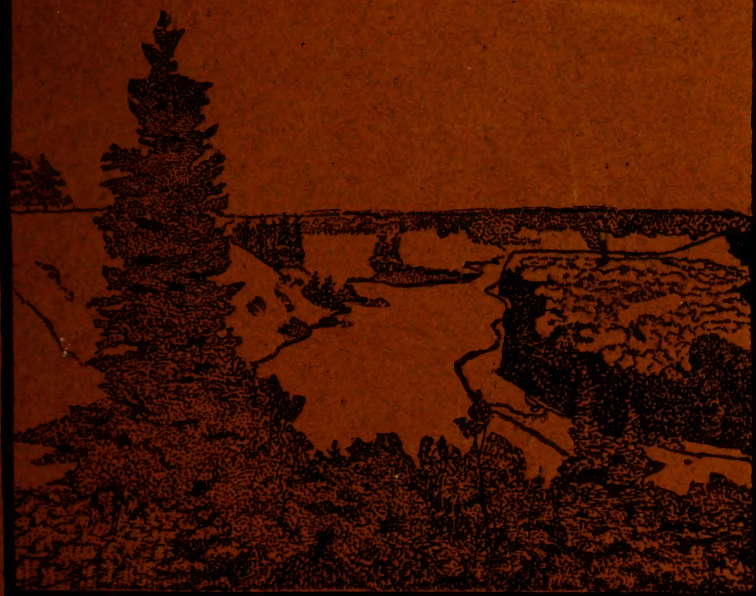


OFFICIAL  
HAND  
BOOK OF  
ALBERTA



*Dorothy Muriel  
Matson  
Bequest*



*The* EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE  
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



*Queen's University at Kingston*



# THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

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# OFFICIAL HAND BOOK

CONTAINING RELIABLE INFOR-  
MATION CONCERNING  
ITS RESOURCES

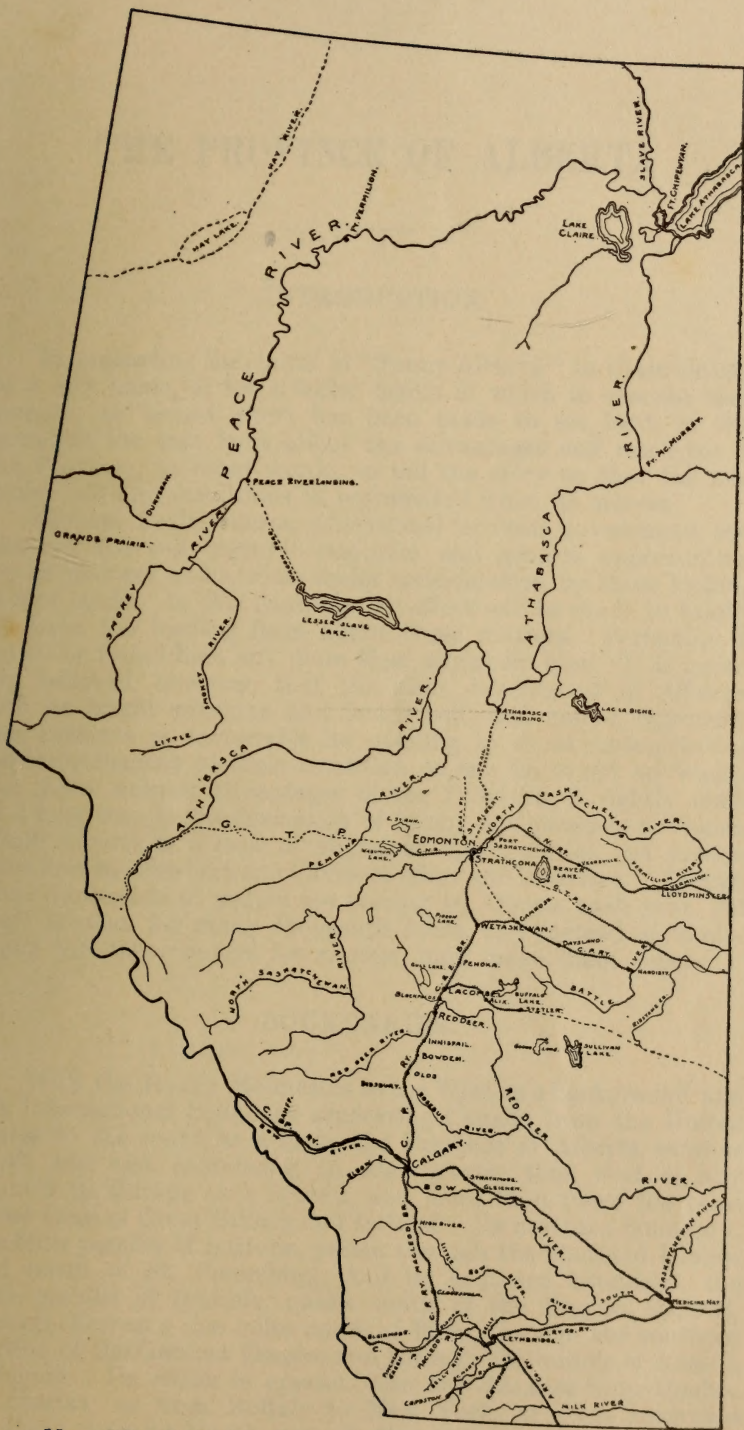
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Map of Province of Alberta.





# THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

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## INTRODUCTION.

In presenting the claims of "Sunny Alberta" to those looking for a new home, or for a wider sphere in which to exercise their energies, an honest effort has been made to set forth in this pamphlet the true facts about the advantages and resources of the Province; in other words, to tell the story so that the new settler will find conditions as represented when he arrives.

Climate, healthfulness, educational facilities, government, fertility of the soil, natural resources and general opportunities are all matters which come under consideration by those looking to new lands. In this pamphlet an effort will be made to briefly set forth the leading facts about these matters. Perfection is not to be found here any more than anywhere else. It is generally believed, however, that the clear, bracing air of Alberta, with its bright sunshine and fertile soil, and golden opportunities presents as favourable an opening to those contemplating the improvement of their condition as can be found anywhere. The many natural advantages of the Province, if rightly used, go a long way to the formation of happy and prosperous homes. While Alberta is a land of abundant opportunities, yet success waits here as elsewhere on individual effort and initiative. Though many thousands of people are coming to Alberta each year, yet there is room for many thousands more, and instead of diminishing the opportunities for success, only make them greater.

## BOUNDARIES.

With the Rocky Mountains to the West as a background and the International boundary separating Canada from the United States to the south as a base, the Province of Alberta extends north and east comprising an area greater than that of any country in Europe save Russia, and more than twice the combined areas of Great Britain and Ireland. Its northern boundary, the 60th parallel of latitude, passes through the Shetland Islands and north of St. Petersburg; and its southern boundary, the 49th parallel of latitude, passes south of the English channel, through France a few miles north of Paris, through the southern portion of the German Empire and through the middle of Austria Hungary. Its width is greater than the distance from Quebec to Halifax, or from Buffalo to New York, or from Liverpool to Paris, and its length exceeds the distance from Chicago to



Washington, or from St. Louis to New Orleans, or from Paris to Rome. A full-sized map of the British Isles might be comfortably placed within its bounds and enough left over to make a combined France and Spain.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Alberta is part of the great Prince Rupert's Land over which the Hudson's Bay Company obtained jurisdiction by receiving a Charter to trade therein from King Charles II. For nearly two centuries the company endeavoured successfully to convey the impression to the outside world that the whole region west of the Great Lakes and Hudson's Bay was unfit for the production of anything but fur. Towards the middle of the nineteenth century, however, reports of the climate and vegetation became so favourable that after Confederation in 1867 the Canadian Government prevailed upon the British Government to make a settlement with the Hudson's Bay Company with the result that the territory together with the jurisdiction thereof was taken over by the Government of the Dominion of Canada; while the Company accepted a cash bounty retaining as well one-twentieth of the land, and the fur-trading privileges. Since that date every year reveals new possibilities possessed by this territory.

Alberta is named in honour of the visit in 1882 of Lord Lorne and Her Royal Highness Princess Louise Alberta. In 1883 a transcontinental railroad connected the territory with both the east and the west, since which time advancement in every line of industry has been rapid and lasting. In 1905 it was incorporated as a Province and now enjoys the full privileges of self government.

The first settlement in the Province was made in what is known as the foot hill country in the south. The pioneers came by bull team from Montana, and cattle raising was their first occupation. The beginning of another settlement was made at Edmonton, the enterprising pioneers making the long journey over land from Winnipeg in the famous Red River carts. Settlement gradually extended to the south of Edmonton along the trail to Calgary with the advance of the railway and more rapidly as the railway was pushed north. Since then settlement has steadily increased until the older parts present an appearance of settled prosperity and comfortableness,—convincing evidence of the fertility of the soil and the opportunities that lie before the new comer.

## SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The system of government is similar to that of any other British Province. As an integral part of the Dominion of Canada, Alberta is entitled to a representation of seven members in the House of Commons at Ottawa, as well as four members in



the Senate. It is the duty of these representatives to look after the interests of the Province as they relate to the whole Dominion. For matters of a local nature, such as the building of roads and bridges, the management of the Educational system and things directly affecting Agriculture, there is the Local Legislature at Edmonton made up of twenty-five members. The members for both Houses are elected by the people. With such a system of legislation, based as it is on the principles of British justice, the people of Alberta enjoy all the privileges of self government.

### SYSTEM OF SURVEYS.

The Province is divided into townships which are six miles square and numbered consecutively as they run north from the International boundary. Each row of townships running north is called a range and these number consecutively from east to west, the numbering beginning again at certain fixed meridians. Each township is surveyed into blocks a mile square, called sections with road allowances of 66 feet between them. The sections in a township are numbered by beginning at the south-east corner and counting westward the width of the township, then east on the second row and west on the third, and so on till number thirty-six is reached on the north-east corner. Each section is divided into quarter sections designated the south-east, south-west, north-east, north-west quarters. By learning the quarter section, the number of the section, the township and the range, the location of any place within the Province can be readily determined. The convenience of this system is emphasized by the fact that each section is marked at its north-east corner with a post carrying on it the number of the section, township and range, indicating the location of that section. It is a criminal offence to tamper with these posts, for by their judicious use a traveller on the prairie can always know his bearings.

### TAXATION AND GOVERNMENT AID.

The burden of government falls very lightly upon the settlers. In districts where there is no school the tax is never higher than from ~~two~~ <sup>12</sup> to ~~three~~ <sup>10</sup> dollars per quarter section, and where a school is established the taxes for school purposes range from three to eight dollars, and cannot by law exceed ~~ten~~ <sup>16</sup> dollars per quarter section. The fact that the revenue for the expenses of the government comes largely from the Dominion treasury relieves the farmer of all but merely a nominal tax. From thirty to seventy per cent. of the teachers' salaries are paid by the government. The government makes itself responsible, too, for bridges and the main roads, Large grants are also made to assist farmers in the destruction and the dissemination of the best methods of preventing the spread of noxious weeds. The formation of Agri-

cultural Societies is encouraged and liberal grants made to such societies. An active programme is carried on for the dissemination of agricultural knowledge by means of farmers' institutes, travelling dairies, stock judging schools and seed fairs. The breeding of pure bred live stock is encouraged by liberal grants, the result being that numerous herds, studs and flocks of these improved breeds have been established, and before long Alberta will be famous for her pure bred stock.

## SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

The system of education is based upon the best that can be gathered from the systems in the older provinces and states. It is entirely under government control, a minister of the Legislature being specially appointed for its supervision. Any district not greater than five miles in extent and having at least four residents and twelve children between the ages of five and sixteen may establish a school district. The teachers must show evidence of not only scholarship but of Normal training, and permanent certificates are not granted until they have had at least one year's experience in a school within the Province for which satisfactory report is given. The inspectors are selected from university graduates who have had a creditable experience in teaching in the schools of the Province. High school work as far as university matriculation is taken up in the towns, and a Normal School for the training of teachers has been started at Calgary. At the last meeting of the Legislature a sum was voted to be set apart as the beginning of a fund for the establishment of a University in the near future. The fact that the system is under a government, that it is non-sectarian, that the inspectors are appointed according to merit and not elected by popular vote, that the teachers are required to answer to a high standard of efficiency, have gained for the Province an enviable reputation in the educational circles of the countries of the world.

## CLIMATE.

The climate of Alberta is peculiarly her own. Comprising as she does such a large area there is necessarily within her borders much variety. The southern portions of the Province have long been noted as health resorts; the hot springs at Banff being particularly well known for their curative qualities. In all parts the clear bracing air is very invigorating and the beautiful autumns, the mild winter, the cool nights of the summer no matter how warm the day, and the long hours of sunshine at all times, have justly won for her the appellation of "Sunny Alberta."

Winter sets in between the middle of November and the middle of December and breaks up the latter part of March or the beginning of April. It is true the temperature sometimes drops con-



siderably below zero, but the clear air and bright sunshine modify the severity to such an extent that the cold is not felt as much as temperatures several degrees higher in countries where wind and fog prevail, or where the air contains a higher percentage of moisture. It is truly a delightful climate and no one need hesitate one second on that score. People suffering from pulmonary troubles are being recommended to try the favourable climate of "Sunny Alberta."

In the south and in certain parts of the north the "chinook" winds play an important role. These are warm westerly winds apparently coming through the passes of the mountains. They melt the snow in those regions over which they exert an influence and make it possible for horses and cattle not only to live but to thrive on the open range all winter.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS.

Probably no better method could be adopted to convey a correct idea of the weather than to give the full information from Crop Bulletin No. 1 of 1907, being a report on the weather for the year 1906.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS.

### Monthly Weather Review, 1906.

**JANUARY.**—January has been an exceptionally mild month. Temperatures much above the average and precipitation below.

*Edmonton.*—Sleighing medium in country, none in city. No shortage of forage reported, and stock doing splendidly; business generally good.

*Calgary.*—The first half and last week of the month were exceptionally fine, warm and bright with chinook winds; but on the 17th bitterly cold weather set in with high easterly winds, lasting until the 24th.

*Medicine Hat.*—Except one week the weather has been mild and fine with light snowfall and southerly winds.

**FEBRUARY.**—The weather of February was generally fine and unusually mild; a very light snowfall was experienced in all localities except over a small area in the northern portion of Saskatchewan, where the total amount was ten inches.

*Calgary.*—A very bright pleasant month with occasional very strong south-west winds, snowfall very light; total fall less than two-tenths of an inch.

*Edmonton.*—The weather of February was mild with much sunshine; the light snowfall which was experienced did not remain

on the ground; business was not so good as generally anticipated on account of no sleighing; stock doing well.

*Medicine Hat.*—Mild dry weather continues; water scarce on some ranges.

MARCH—*Calgary.*—Up to the 20th of March the weather was very cold and windy, but last few days of month very warm; very little gardening or spring work done.

*Edmonton.*—March opened cold with snow flurries; weather after 20th very warm with little or no frost at night, windy throughout month, blowing day and night; seeding general on plowed land; river and creek low; no spring birds yet; roads splendid; about three inches of snow fell during the month, but ground practically bare all month.

*Medicine Hat.*—Except last few days the weather during March was generally cold and dry; reports from stock ranges good.

APRIL.—Ploughing on March 20th; local showers general; grass green; winter wheat generally wintered well and spring wheat is up; rivers opened on first, and ducks and geese flying on 6th.

*Edmonton.*—Weather for month fine; very dry and constant wind which was continually shifting; ducks and geese fifth; crows, robins, yellow birds and grasshoppers on 16th; 90% wheat in by end of the month and now sowing oats; all rivers, creeks and lakes very low; grass very backward; grain sown is germinating well; some fields green.

*Calgary.*—A very dry, warm month with high winds; vegetation fairly well advanced; winter wheat looking well but very much in need of rain.

*Medicine Hat.*—Dry and fine generally during April, with much wind; a light rainfall during last week was very beneficial.

MAY.—General agriculture conditions very favourable, excessive rainfall, crops well advanced, prospects promising; winter wheat doing well; fruit trees in blossom. Range cattle condition good, free of disease; local frost did slight damage from the 4th to the 8th; wild flowers and fruit blossom early; rivers and creeks all high.

*Edmonton.*—Weather for the month was cool and cloudy, more rain needed; crops looking fair, damage from cutworms on summer fallow; winds unusually high; rivers have risen.

*Calgary.*—The weather until the middle of the month was very dry and windy, killing a good deal of the winter wheat; afterwards it rained almost continuously until the last of the month; everything is now looking well and growing very fast.



*Medicine Hat.*—Almost continuous light rains during seventeen days in May have put crop conditions in the first class.

**JUNE.**—The weather was unusually dry in some portions of Alberta and exceedingly wet elsewhere, rain occurring frequently between the 3rd and 21st, also on or about the 28th and 30th. Much cloudiness prevailed and the proportion of bright sunshine was below the average, the mean temperature did not depart much from the average, but in many places in Alberta it was somewhat in excess whilst in other districts it was slightly below. Quite warm weather occurred during the first four days, also on or about the 9th to 12th, 23rd to 27th and 30th. Vegetation made rapid progress and on the 30th it was more forward than usual.

**JULY.**—A very warm month with plenty of moisture for growing crops which never looked better; grain changing colour in some localities; harvest will be general in three weeks; hay crop good, also all roots. Rivers high, no hail, no destructive storms.

*Edmonton.*—High temperature early in month, crops well advanced and promise good yields, slight damage from hail. No damage from any other agency reported. Haying general on 12th, local showers general throughout month. Winter wheat harvest commenced in south.

*Medicine Hat.*—The weather during July has been warm and dry. Hay harvest has commenced, grain crops looking well and maturing rapidly.

*Calgary.*—Crops excellent, wheat colouring; cutting will be in full swing by middle of month, weather hot with occasional showers; prospects good for bountiful harvest.

**AUGUST.**—The predominant features of the month were the dryness of the larger portion of the North-West and the intense heat which prevailed for a week or ten days about the middle of the month, when at many of the more southern stations the temperature frequently exceeded 90 degrees.

*Edmonton.*—Harvesting general; haying completed, crop and quality good, several light frosts, not of sufficient intensity to damage crops but affecting the later vegetables. The meteorological observer reports a month of fine weather and very light rainfall; crop nearly all cut in fine condition; hay and root crop good.

*Medicine Hat.*—Weather generally fine, some high temperatures early in month, followed by good rains; grain cutting finished; crops good.

*Calgary.*—August has been a very fine month, warm and bright throughout; the harvest is well advanced and crops are excellent.

**SEPTEMBER.**—The weather of the month was cloudy and dry with light variable winds; threshers all busy; reports indicate

a big yield, quite first class for all grains. Saskatchewan River rose to summer level but soon fell again; creeks all low; only three degrees of frost recorded.

*Calgary.*—September weather was very fine, only four hundredths of an inch of rain; harvest is completed and about one-third threshed. Yield is good and grain of excellent quality; root crop particularly good; some very heavy frosts but very little damage.

*Medicine Hat.*—Fine dry weather during September; range reports good stock now being exported and of excellent quality. Geese migrating south on the 20th; frosts on the 11th and 26th; leaves sere and falling fast; harvest completed, threshing general; vegetable crops good; winter wheat yielding better than expected; light showers fairly general.

OCTOBER.—An extremely fine, mild month throughout the province. Showers occurred occasionally. The first really severe frosts were reported on the morning of the 9th but the weather turned milder again immediately and no low temperature occurred again until the 23rd, after which the night temperature was low. The first appreciable occurred on the 28th.

*Edmonton.*—The month opened with fine weather generally favourable for threshing operations; greatly increased area sown to winter wheat under very favourable conditions. The observer reports: A fine month, frost on ten nights only, rainfall light and only one flurry of snow; rivers low; threshing pretty well over in many districts, returns show a good yield and good quality.

*Calgary.*—October has been a good month, warm and bright, with strong winds from westward; sweet peas bloomed in the gardens until the middle of the month; fall wheat in splendid condition.

*Medicine Hat.*—A mild open month, with very light frost and more high winds than usual.

NOVEMBER.—Up to the 14th the weather was on the whole fair and comparatively mild. On the 15th a severe storm with heavy snow set in over Alberta with much colder weather, the first zero temperature being recorded on the 16th.

*Edmonton.*—Snow plentiful, fine sleighing, rivers frozen up; winter wheat in good condition; the heaviest snowfall for one month on record, 35 inches having fallen; four days zero and below, no frost in ground, building still going on; 10 inches on ground in open, two feet and over in woods; weather mostly cloudy with strong winds.

*Calgary.*—November has been a pleasant sunshiny month with very little snowfall; about three inches of snow in all which has disappeared; building operations still in full swing.



*Medicine Hat.*—Unsettled and cold generally during November but no bad storms; stock in good condition.

DECEMBER.—Cold wintry weather prevailed over Alberta.

*Edmonton.*—Little or no wind, no drifts, no great extremes of temperature.

*Medicine Hat.*—The weather was dull and cold generally, good snowfall and excellent sleighing, stock doing well and keeping up condition.

*Calgary.*—December weather was very cold throughout, twice the mercury dropped to 26 below zero; about three inches of snow on ground. Alberta reports that threshing operations were delayed through the heavy snowfall.

# METEOROLOGICAL Stations in Operation in the Province of Alberta, 1906.

Station	Lat. N.	Long. W.	Altitude in ft above Sea Level	Name of Observer
Athabasca Landing. ....	54.43	113.17	1650	A. G. Reeve
Alix. ....	52.28	113.10	2870	Arthur F. Wright
Banff. ....	51.10	115.35	4524	N. B. Sanson
Blackfalds. ....	52.24	113.46	2876	G. L. Gregson
Bon Accord. ....	54.5	113.32	2100	Jno. Schofield
Calgary. ....	51.2	114.2	3389	T. B. Bradin
Calgary (Ex. Stn.). ....	50.58	114.1	3400	P. Turner Bone
Didsbury. ....	51.40	114.9	3300	C. L. Peterson
Edmonton. ....	53.33	113.30	2158	H. S. Young
Gray Hill. ....	52.15	113.30	2795	Robert Gray
Gleichen. ....	50.52	112.54	2952	Rev. Canon Stocken
Hillsdown. ....	52.14	113.29	2940	R. E. Fiske
Kneehill. ....	51.55	113.47	2800	Alex. Wyndham
Lethbridge. ....	49.42	112.51	3240	C. W. Bowman
Medicine Hat. ....	50.11	110.37	2161	Walter Crosskill
Macleod. ....	49.44	113.24	3090	Supt. P. C. H. Primrose
Pincher Creek. ....	49.11	114.4	3750	G. W. Gill
Pekisko. ....	50.35	113.53	3394	F. R. Pike
Red Deer. ....	52.16	113.49	2806	R. E. Fiske
Threehills Creek. ....	51.30	113.11	3190	W. E. Cutler
Victoria. ....	54.0	112.23	2100	J. A. Mitchell
Wetaskiwin. ....	53.0	113.20	2480	J. H. Walker
Waitefield. ....	52.29	111.38	2000	Thomas B. Waite
Fort Vermilion. ....	58.29	116.3	950	
Fort Dunvegan. ....	55.56	119.2	1302	F. J. H. Bedstow





## MONTHLY PRECIPITATION, 1906.

Station.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Åthabasca Landing.....	.....	0.45	R	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.45
Alix.....	0.95	0.10	0.20	0.46	3.20	3.54	2.11	1.09	0.24	0.26	.....	0.85	13.00
Banff.....	0.77	0.40	0.19	0.32	2.98	1.91	0.89	2.26	0.84	1.95	0.87	1.50	14.88
Blackfalds.....	0.44	.....	0.07	0.22	3.06	2.69	1.95	2.64	0.30	0.32	2.07	1.40	15.16
Bon Accord.....	0.68	0.17	0.28	0.71	1.73	5.63	1.98	0.81	0.56	0.50	2.35	2.23	17.63
Bon Accord.....	0.04	0.14	0.70	0.37	6.96	2.35	1.15	3.00	0.04	0.90	0.34	0.25	16.24
Calgary.....	.....	.....	0.35	0.30	7.49	2.67	1.74	3.83	0.17	0.50	0.40	0.50	17.95
Calgary (Ex. Stn.).....	.....	.....	0.25	0.07	7.09	3.41	0.58	2.85	0.47	0.55	1.50	5.00	22.07
Didsbury.....	0.20	0.10	.....	0.44	1.45	4.07	2.60	0.81	0.54	.....	3.57	.....	13.48
Edmonton.....	.....	.....	.....	0.54	3.76	2.62	2.06	2.03	0.31	0.59	.....	1.06	14.30
Gray Hill.....	0.70	0.50	0.13	0.16	6.40	2.49	0.63	3.62	0.22	1.38	0.45	0.23	16.61
Gleichen.....	0.25	0.48	0.30	0.58	3.88	2.47	1.94	1.76	0.18	0.41	2.17	1.18	16.06
Hilldown.....	0.93	0.10	0.46	0.20	5.25	2.99	0.30	1.59	0.20	0.65	.....	.....	11.18
Kneehill.....	.....	.....	.....	1.30	8.60	2.31	0.83	4.70	0.16	1.93	0.81	0.88	22.48
Lethbridge.....	0.22	0.20	0.54	0.23	4.37	2.64	0.09	2.16	0.05	0.44	0.04	0.95	11.62
Medicine Hat.....	0.50	0.10	0.05	0.51	6.56	3.54	1.68	3.26	0.14	0.10	0.80	1.20	20.82
Macleod.....	0.10	0.70	1.23	1.87	9.28	1.23	2.05	5.75	0.09	0.68	.....	.....	21.63
Pincher Creek.....	0.14	0.12	0.42	0.50	5.56	2.15	1.47	3.63	0.14	1.56	0.60	1.55	17.86
Pekisko.....	.....	0.70	.....	.....	.....	1.22	0.90	0.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.45
Red Deer.....	.....	0.63	.....	.....	.....	1.22	0.90	0.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.45
Threehills Creek.....	.....	0.45	0.19	0.63	4.72	3.56	0.31	2.34	0.18	0.69	1.10	0.95	15.25
Victoria.....	0.75	0.50	R	1.42	1.63	6.14	3.34	1.00	1.05	.....	.....	.....	15.83
Wetaskiwin.....	0.56	0.32	0.50	0.14	2.17	4.19	3.31	0.45	0.64	0.44	2.38	1.54	16.64
Waitefield.....	0.84	0.15	0.26	3.73	1.62	6.52	4.40	0.75	0.79	0.19	3.07	2.25	24.57
Fort Vermilion.....	0.31	0.65	.....	0.36	0.28	3.44	1.41	0.88	.....	.....	0.60	0.30	8.23
Fort Dunvegan.....	0.82	0.44	.....	0.24	0.85	4.05	1.61	1.14	1.19	1.10	1.00	2.05	14.49

# TEMPERATURES.

STATIONS.	January					February					March					April				
	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date
Athabasca Landing.....	12.0	46.0	8	37.0	20	13.5	47.0	2	20.5	12	24.7	64.5	31	18.5	12	43.7	79.0	22	17.0	12
Alix.....	19.0	47.0	31	20.6	23	23.0	49.2	2	17.0	13	22.9	7.0	30	21.0	11	42.4	73.1	21	16.8	12
Banff.....	10.4	49.0	25	31.5	21	18.8	52.0	3	13.0	14	24.2	72.0	31	19.5	12	44.6	76.3	23	17.0	11
Blackfalds.....	10.7	46.2	30	38.7	22	17.1	50.3	18	10.5	5	23.8	69.5	31	14.0	11	46.2	73.5	22	23.0	2
Bon Accord.....	16.0	54.0	30	32.0	21	27.4	4.0	1	8.0	4	24.0	62.0	29	28.0	14	46.5	85.0	22	20.0	4
Cardston.....	14.3	48.4	29	35.9	21	21.2	57.4	3	17.3	13	21.7	71.9	31	26.6	14	43.6	79.9	24	15.0	11
Calgary (Ex. Stn.).....	16.3	54.0	30	38.0	21	24.0	56.0	2	8.0	4	40.0	80.0	30	20.0	12	47.7	84.0	21	20.0	11
Didsbury.....	15.8	50.2	28	30.4	20	22.4	55.3	2	5.2	4	26.0	73.4	31	15.6	14	48.8	77.0	22	23.0	5
Edmonton.....	13.1	50.2	25	43.0	21	22.0	56.0	2	17.0	14	24.0	74.0	30	27.5	14	45.2	85.5	22	11.0	11
Gray Hill.....	14.8	53.0	25	31.7	21	21.8	54.0	2	10.0	14	26.1	73.0	31	20.0	12	46.2	78.2	21	10.0	10
Gleichen.....	8.8	47.0	25	14.0	21	18.3	50.0	2	17.0	14	21.9	73.0	30	23.5	14	42.0	82.0	22	8.0	10
Hillstown.....	21.7	56.7	26	22.8	23	27.0	65.4	2	7.7	4	26.6	75.8	31	22.2	14	51.0	92.5	23	24.2	2
Kneehill.....	18.4	55.0	4	30.8	21	25.8	59.0	18	15.5	13	27.4	75.0	31	21.5	14	50.6	94.0	22	10.4	3
Medicine Hat.....	18.9	56.0	26	28.0	22	25.0	62.0	1	16.0	14	23.0	82.0	28	33.0	14	45.1	83.0	21	18.0	3
Macleod.....	23.3	53.0	31	23.0	22	27.7	58.0	2	0.9	4	23.8	66.0	31	24.0	14	45.4	80.0	22	16.0	3
Pincher Creek.....						24.2	76.0	2	23.5	12						40.4	87.0	22	6.0	12
Pekisko.....																				
Red Deer.....	7.4	46.0	25	42.5	21	17.7	48.5	2	13.5	14	22.6	73.5	31	24.5	12	42.9	84.0	22	11.0	13
Threehills Creek.....	18.2	5.0	8	48.0	22	11.7	49.1	18	28.5	13	25.4	73.0	31	23.0	12	43.6	76.8	22	20.0	13
Victoria.....	12.7	46.0	31	29.0	21	18.5	49.0	3	11.0	13	22.7	68.0	31	16.0	12	47.3	78.0	23	22.0	11
Wetaskiwin.....	9.1	58.8	4	41.0	21	12.8	47.5	2	25.0	13	20.4	73.4	31	23.0	12	45.7	82.2	22	12.0	10
Waitefield.....	7.1	50.0	30	61.0	22	12.9	50.1	2	15.0	13						47.6	75.0	21	20.0	28
Dunvegan.....	12.6	41.0	8	47.0	20	2.2	17.2	21	42.0	11						42.9	68.3	30	14.5	1
Fort Dunvegan.....																				

# TEMPERATURES.

STATIONS.	May					June					July					August				
	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date
Athabasca Landing.....	47.0	81.0	9	13.0	4	56.4	80.0	12	34.0	22	63.3	87.0	8	37.0	31	57.4	87.0	13	32.0	30
Alix.....	44.0	74.5	10	19.8	5	51.2	81.6	25	28.2	20	62.8	90.5	4	37.8	14	55.6	85.5	11	30.2	22
Banff.....	46.0	80.2	10	15.0	5	55.4	77.0	13	34.0	15	63.2	85.8	8	35.0	13	58.6	87.1	13	30.0	22
Blackfalds.....	46.0	74.9	10	15.5	5	57.6	83.0	3	35.1	2	64.2	87.0	6	42.0	15	56.7	83.8	7	34.8	22
Bon Accord.....	44.1	83.0	10	20.0	7	51.3	74.0	3	32.0	15	64.6	95.0	28	40.0	31	60.7	96.0	10	33.0	2
Cardston.....	46.4	82.0	9	18.0	5	56.0	77.0	11	36.0	15	64.2	88.0	9	40.0	1	59.5	92.0	12	34.0	2
Calgary.....	44.4	79.9	10	16.5	5	52.9	74.9	3	32.5	16	61.5	84.9	10	39.0	2	56.7	88.9	13	33.0	20
Calgary (Ex. Stn.).....	47.5	86.0	9	22.0	5	59.1	80.0	9	40.0	19	68.5	90.0	7	48.0	25	59.0	94.0	12	32.0	25
Didsbury.....	48.0	77.0	10	15.0	5	59.4	83.0	27	39.0	15	66.4	89.0	6	44.0	14	60.0	90.0	7	35.0	22
Edmonton.....	46.7	86.5	10	12.5	5	55.7	75.6	13	38.2	15	64.7	86.8	9	44.4	13	58.8	87.6	7	36.4	25
Gray Hill.....	46.8	80.5	9	19.0	8	57.0	81.4	12	36.0	23	65.2	88.0	6	43.0	1	58.7	88.0	7	35.0	22
Gleichen.....	44.4	83.0	9	9.0	5	54.0	77.8	27	30.0	15	62.7	87.0	9	35.3	1	56.4	93.0	12	20.6	3
Hilldown.....	49.3	90.8	10	25.0	5	59.4	81.1	12	40.0	23	69.0	93.9	19	42.9	15	61.8	98.8	13	31.2	25
Kneehill.....	52.1	88.0	10	19.7	5	61.0	84.0	27	44.7	20	71.3	96.0	29	41.7	14	67.3	103.0	12	42.7	3
Lethbridge.....	44.9	84.0	9	19.0	5	54.7	80.1	26	30.0	15	65.7	93.0	8	37.0	1	61.7	97.0	11	29.0	4
Medicine Hat.....	45.2	80.0	10	24.0	7	54.7	81.0	12	34.0	15	64.9	88.0	9	45.0	2	60.3	92.0	12	36.0	3
Macleod.....	.....	80.0	9	.....	.....	53.6	78.0	11	31.0	2	62.2	89.0	9	37.5	1	58.1	90.0	12	34.0	17
Pincher Creek.....	.....	80.0	9	.....	.....	46.7	78.0	6	22.0	2	72.6	99.0	8	37.0	3	57.3	90.0	8	30.0	25
Pekisko.....	46.2	85.5	10	11.0	5	55.1	78.0	12	32.5	23	63.6	90.0	29	38.0	1	58.4	93.0	12	30.5	3
Red Deer.....	46.7	77.5	10	12.0	5	56.2	80.0	3	31.5	2	64.2	86.0	6	38.0	14	56.7	86.5	7	31.3	22
Threehills Creek.....	46.7	76.0	10	14.0	5	56.5	80.0	4	36.0	23	64.0	86.5	7	39.0	14	71.4	87.0	11	35.0	23
Victoria.....	46.4	78.8	10	18.5	5	57.2	77.8	27	34.8	20	64.6	80.8	6	41.0	14	58.6	83.0	12	34.0	20
Wetaskiwin.....	49.3	79.0	31	18.0	5	59.7	87.0	24	34.6	2	62.8	93.0	3	36.0	21	56.8	83.0	12	23.0	19
Waitefield.....	50.4	81.0	11	23.5	7	60.4	89.0	24	37.5	2	66.8	93.7	2	40.8	16	54.2	82.5	5	25.5	28
Dunvegan.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Vermilion.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....



# TEMPERATURE

## STATIONS.

STATIONS.	September				October				November				December			
	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Mean	Max.	Date	Min.	Date	
Athabasca Landing.	49.5	83.0	6	17.0	25	41.9	77.0	1	15.0	20	19.5	55.0	12	23.0	17	
Alix.	49.3	75.0	19	23.5	12	40.7	67.4	10	14.7	21	22.7	41.6	10	10.4	18	
Banff.	49.8	81.8	19	23.0	10	41.9	79.5	10	15.0	20	20.8	60.0	13	26.3	18	
Blackfalds.	50.0	76.0	6	26.0	12	42.5	75.6	10	19.8	29	20.8	44.6	23	17.5	18	
Bon Accord.	54.6	88.0	19	25.0	28	46.2	78.0	10	20.0	19	27.8	60.0	13	9.0	18	
Cardston.	51.4	82.0	6	24.0	12	44.4	77.0	10	22.0	21	26.9	60.0	12	8.0	19	
Calgary.	47.7	79.9	19	20.0	12	41.7	70.9	2	18.0	30	22.4	51.9	11	10.0	18	
Calgary (Ex. Stn.)	52.6	84.0	18	26.0	10	45.6	80.0	10	20.0	20	28.5	62.0	12	14.0	18	
Didsbury.	52.8	78.0	6	29.0	26	44.6	79.2	10	18.6	8	22.6	50.0	23	20.0	18	
Edmonton.	52.0	83.4	6	30.2	14	44.6	79.2	10	18.6	8	22.6	50.0	23	20.0	18	
Gray Hill.	51.8	80.0	18	17.0	26	44.2	81.0	10	17.0	22	21.4	53.0	12	18.0	19	
Gleichen.	51.5	82.5	6	21.0	26	43.4	75.3	10	16.4	8	22.0	58.0	12	20.0	18	
Hillsdown.	49.2	83.0	6	13.0	26	40.4	76.5	10	10.5	21	20.7	62.0	12	21.0	18	
Kneehill.	57.2	82.3	18	30.2	12	49.9	83.1	11	22.2	29	30.8	60.9	11	10.1	19	
Lethbridge.	60.4	88.0	18	28.7	26	49.4	78.0	1	22.7	21	28.0	60.0	12	9.4	19	
Medicine Hat.	55.2	82.0	19	22.0	10	45.4	75.0	10	15.0	21	29.6	56.0	11	0.0	19	
Macleod.	54.8	78.0	19	26.0	12	46.1	74.0	11	19.0	21	32.7	56.0	13	12.0	18	
Pincher Creek.	50.4	78.0	18	24.0	28	43.1	71.0	9	17.5	21	27.6	57.0	11	15.0	18	
Pekisko.	50.2	82.5	6	16.0	26	41.8	76.5	10	14.5	20	18.8	62.0	12	20.5	18	
Red Deer.	50.5	78.0	3	25.0	26	47.9	76.0	12	18.0	31	24.1	55.0	1	23.0	18	
Threehills Creek.	51.3	81.0	7	23.0	26	47.9	76.5	10	17.0	29	19.7	43.2	23	16.0	18	
Victoria.	51.5	80.0	8	25.5	12	42.6	76.5	10	17.0	29	19.7	43.2	23	16.0	18	
Wetaskiwin.	48.0	75.0	10	26.0	30	39.3	63.1	1	20.0	28	17.5	49.0	4	9.0	19	
Waitefield.																
Dunvegan.																
Fort Vermilion.																

## RAINFALL.

From the foregoing tables it will readily be seen that in no part of the Province is there insufficient rain to insure good crops. The United States Government classifies land as humid where the rain fall is over 20 inches, as semi-arid where it is less than 20 and more than 10 inches and as arid under the latter amount. According to this classification all Alberta as well as the States immediately to the south of us must be considered as semi-arid. In this connection our winters are an advantage, as but little evaporation takes place then. The heaviest rains of the season come in June and July, during the growing period just when most needed. This insures the crop. But little rain falls in early spring or during seeding, thus presenting ideal conditions for getting in the seed. The same applies during harvest and early fall. It is thus possible to cut and stook the grain and allow it to stand for weeks before it is necessary to handle it. This permits of the grain being threshed direct from the stook. Many farmers, however, prefer to put their grain into stacks feeling safe then should unfavourable weather for stook threshing come. Besides it is generally conceded that the sweating which a stack undergoes improves the colour of the grain. The fine sunny days of the fall afford ample time to get all the grain threshed before winter sets in.

## SOIL AND SURFACE FEATURES.

Clay covers almost the whole area varying in depth from a few feet at the Rocky Mountains to several hundred feet farther



Steam Plow at Work near Magrath.

east. This is overlaid by a deep black soil from a few inches to four and even five feet in thickness practically free of stones.

Numerous analyses of black surface soil have been made and all show it to be exceedingly rich in nitrogen, potash, phos-



phoric acid and lime. These are the essential plant foods upon which successful growth depends. The soil is particularly rich in nitrogen and as this element is responsible in a large measure for the luxuriant dark green growth, the grain gives evident conformation of the correctness of these analyses. It is this



Crescent Creek near Lacombe.

exceeding richness of the soil that enables it to produce such large yields for many years consecutively without any apparent diminution in yield.

The Province is well supplied with many streams of running water, as many brooks and rivers wind their way eastward from the Rocky Mountain slopes. In many places these streams have cut deep coulees or ravines through the clay formation, which gives to the landscape a picturesque appearance.



Ranch of Mr. Geo. Powell, Vermilion.

The great bulk of the land is undulating prairie with here and there level stretches which extend for many miles. In the extreme south the prairie is particularly level and open. The trees are confined largely to the river valleys and the foothills of the mountains. Farther north the monotony of the level prairie is broken by clumps of trees, making a park like country

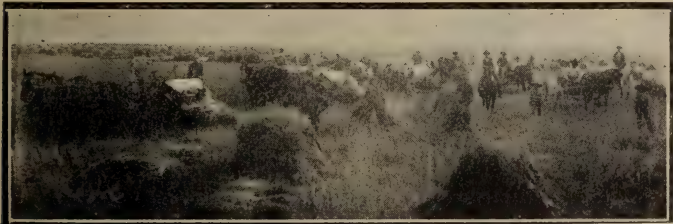
that is very fascinating. Some of this timber attains quite a size, and besides making firewood and fence posts supplies the settler with logs for building purposes, while the larger logs cut into excellent lumber.

The initial cost of preparing land for crops is an item worthy of consideration by every intending settler. The open prairie land can be quickly broken and prepared for seeding at a minimum of expense because there are practically no stones or anything else



Cutting a square mile of Winter Wheat on Breaking.

to delay the work of plowing. In the park country the land can be broken in the spring and an excellent crop of oats, wheat or barley obtained. Additional land can then be broken after seeding and prepared for another year; or if thought best sown to winter wheat. In the extreme south where it is almost all open prairie the sod is tougher and is best broken shallow say  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches deep, well rolled and then backset in August. This makes a fine preparation for winter wheat, or, if preferred, spring wheat the following year, and should mean a crop ranging from 30 to 50 bushels.



Cutting Winter Wheat on Silver Farm near Lethbridge.

While the central and northern portions of the Province are blessed with considerable timber it has other compensations. It is well watered with exceedingly nice streams which make it an ideal country for mixed farming.





Winter Wheat South of Pincher Creek. (The man is 6 ft. high.)



A sea of Winter Wheat at Magrath. (The man is 5 ft. 10 in. high.)

## NATURAL VEGETATION.

It is the luxuriance of the natural vegetation of the open prairie which has inspired the poet Bryant to write:

"These are the gardens of the desert,  
These the unshorn fields, boundless and beautiful,  
For which the speech of England has no name,  
The prairies."

The grasses natural to the different parts of the Province are many and various, and some have been tried in the experimental plots at different stations. At the Ontario Agricultural College the highest yielding grass in any experiment, covering five years was the Western Rye Grass, a native of the Province of Alberta. Such a variety exists that at no time of the year is there an absence of nutrient material for pasture. In the coulees of the south, and throughout the middle and north the variety of timber existing includes poplar, aspen, birch, elm, cottonwood, willow, maple, ash and spruce. Throughout these partially wooded districts the ground is overgrown with wild vetches and wild peas, which cling to the undergrowth, forming a network of the very closest herbage. The clear dry air of the autumn dries and cures this, forming hay of a high nutritive value, and the fact that it clings to the bushes makes it possible for cattle to feed on it even though the snow be tolerably deep. In the same way the natural grass of the prairie is cured on the ground and furnishes the very best food for the stock which run out all winter and paw away the snow in order to get at the grass, or hay as it should properly be called. As well as the grasses there are myriads of flowers and small fruits. The hillsides are covered in June with the briar rose, and the ground literally red with wild strawberries. In the wooded clumps may be found wild raspberries, black berries, currants, gooseberries and saskatoons. During the autumn choke cherries and high bush cranberries are plentiful. Many families are able to gather all the fruit required for the table.

## CULTIVATED CROPS.

When one considers that the wild grasses of the prairie give larger yields under cultivation than the cultivated grasses of Europe, that peas and vetches are native to the soil, and that all kinds of small fruits flourish in a wild state, it is little wonder then if we find grains, small fruits, vegetables and all kinds of farm products responding well to their introduction into this fertile soil. That they do respond is evident from the large yields even with the crudest cultivation. In order to give a fair idea of what can be done at all it would be better to go into the details of some of the crops.

**SPRING WHEAT.**—The prize wheat of the Province at the Provincial Seed Fair in 1907 came from near the southern boundary, and the wheat which won first place at the World's Columbian



Exposition in 1893 was grown in the Peace River Valley, near the northern boundary. When we consider that grain of such high quality can be grown at the extremities of the Province, it speaks well for the possibilities of the crop throughout the whole land. It grows luxuriantly in all parts of the Province and each year sees a great increase in the area sown. The increase for 1907 over 1906 is 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. The yields have been uniformly



Wheat near Wetaskiwin.

good and when compared with those obtained in the neighbour ing States to the south of the line have been as uniformly high. An average of 21.27 bushels per acre over nine consecutive seasons is no mean average for the whole of the Province. In 1898 the average yield was 25.27. In 1899 the average yield was 23.74; in 1901 it was 24.58, and in 1906, 23.07 bushels per acre. For better particulars as to the yield for the last nine years see adjoining table of yields. Compare these with the following table:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE OF WHEAT, 1891-1900.

State	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	Ave- rage
	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	bus.	
Minnesota.....	17.6	11.6	9.6	13.5	23.0	14.2	13.0	15.8	13.4	10.5	14.2
Iowa.....	15.3	11.5	11.5	14.8	19.5	16.0	13.0	16.7	13.0	15.6	14.7
Missouri.....	13.6	12.5	9.5	15.3	12.0	11.7	9.0	9.8	9.9	12.5	11.6
Kansas.....	15.5	17.4	8.4	10.4	7.7	10.6	15.5	14.2	9.8	17.7	12.7
Nebraska.....	15.0	12.5	8.7	7.0	12.0	14.0	14.5	16.4	10.3	12.0	12.2
South Dakota.....	15.2	12.5	8.5	6.6	12.0	11.2	8.0	12.4	10.7	6.9	10.4
North Dakota.....	17.8	12.2	9.6	11.8	21.0	11.8	10.3	14.4	12.8	4.9	12.7



Two Stools Winter Wheat, Cardston.



Winter Wheat in Stubble and just coming up, farm of Mr. Johnnes Anderson,  
Cardston.

**WINTER WHEAT.**—While this crop has been successfully grown in the Province in a small way for sixteen to eighteen years it was not until comparatively recent years that any extensive area was sown to it. With the introduction of "Alberta Red" a new era for winter wheat came in and now the land cannot be broken fast enough. The acreage sown to winter wheat has more than doubled each year for a number of years.



Threshing Scene.

It is sown on new breaking or summer fallowed land from the middle of July to the end of September. So far there has been very little winter killing where the grain has been properly put in. Turkey Red wheat from Kansas has been introduced and grows such a superior sample here that it is now being shipped back to Kansas for seed. It has been successfully grown as far north as Edmonton and again in the north-east corner of the Province at Fort Vermilion, fully four hundred miles north-west of Edmonton. Owing to the superior quality of the winter wheat

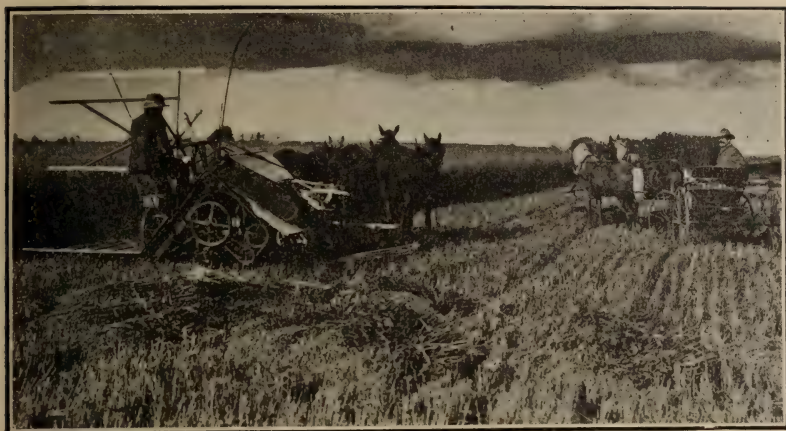


Oat Field at Lethbridge.

a special grade has been established for it and called "Alberta Red." The wheat is in great demand on account of its superior milling qualities.

**OATS.**—While the southern portion of the Province has become famous as a section admirably adapted to growing a high quality of winter wheat, the central portion of the Province has become equally as well known as a district that grows large





Cutting Oats, Central Alberta.



Winter Wheat at Spring Coulee, Southern Alberta.



An Excellent Crop of Oats.

crops of a superior quality of oats. A yield of 100 bushels per acre is not uncommon and from 50 to 60 is regularly obtained. While 34 pounds is the standard weight for a bushel of oats, the bushel that won the first prize at the Provincial Seed Fair, weighed by the Dominion Grain Inspector for the Province, tipped the scale at 48 pounds. The same official stated that Alberta was prepared to advocate a standard grade of oats calling for a weight of 42 pounds to the bushel, and also made the statement under oath that 85 per cent. of the Alberta oats examined by him would weigh over 42 pounds to the bushel. It will thus be seen that oats of a very superior quality can be grown. It is this fact which has led to the establishment in the Province of two large oat-meal mills. It is not unusual to see a large field of oats standing



Field of Oats near Calgary.

five and almost six feet high. The average yield for the Province as given in the accompanying tables is machine measure and instead of being 37.13 bushels is nearer 45 bushels, which as an average for the whole Province speaks for itself.

**BARLEY.**—This crop has not been so extensively grown as have oats and wheat but it is growing in favour every year. Both two and six rowed varieties do well. The quality is very suitable for brewing and malting, and the demand for this purpose is steadily increasing. The yields are from 40 to 50 bushels and very often exceed 60 bushels per acre. Large quantities are used annually as feed for hogs.

**FLAX.**—Flax has been tried in almost every district and with more than favourable success, the yield being upward of 20 and often 30 bushels per acre. The erection of mills for the manufacture of linseed oil is under consideration at different points, and the crop promises to be one of some importance in the future.



Oat Field near Edmonton.



Oat Field, Central Alberta.



**SUMMARY of the Acreage and Yields of the Leading Grains in Alberta  
during the last nine years.**

	Year	Crop area in acres	Total yield in bushels	Average yield per acre	Average yield
Spring Wheat	1906	115,502	2,664,661	23.07	21.27
	1905	75,353	1,617,505	21.46	
	1904	47,411	786,075	16.58	
	1903	59,951	1,118,180	18.65	
	1902	45,064	850,122	18.86	
	1901	34,890	857,714	24.58	
	1900	30,361	583,806	19.22	
	1899	35,090	833,123	23.74	
	1898	31,348	792,417	25.27	
Winter Wheat	1906	61,625	1,301,359	21.11	21.20
	1905	32,174	689,019	21.41	
	1904	8,296	152,125	18.33	
	1903	3,440	82,418	23.95	
Oats....	1906	335,728	13,136,913	39.12	37.13
	1905	242,801	9,514,180	39.18	
	1904	180,698	5,609,496	31.04	
	1903	162,314	5,187,511	31.95	
	1902	118,997	3,776,976	31.74	
	1901	104,533	4,253,284	40.68	
	1900	77,616	2,625,581	33.82	
	1899	51,929	2,189,441	42.16	
	1898	38,964	1,734,197	44.50	
Barley....	1906	73,588	2,157,957	29.32	27.40
	1905	64,830	1,773,914	27.36	
	1904	61,549	1,608,241	26.12	
	1903	42,219	1,077,274	25.51	
	1902	22,201	473,108	21.31	
	1901	13,483	442,381	32.81	
	1900	9,256	234,971	25.37	
	1899	6,655	178,395	26.80	
	1898	8,742	279,826	32.00	
Flax.....	1906	3,647	38,491	10.65	11.97
	1905	581	8,337	14.34	
	1904	367	5,003	13.63	
	1903	830	7,753	9.34	
	1902	373	4,476	12.00	
Speltz....	1906	385	11,423	29.67	25.38
	1905	178	4,419	24.82	
	1904	112	2,426	21.66	
Rye.....	1906	1,139	22,462	19.70	19.70

Total crop area, 1906, 591,614 acres.

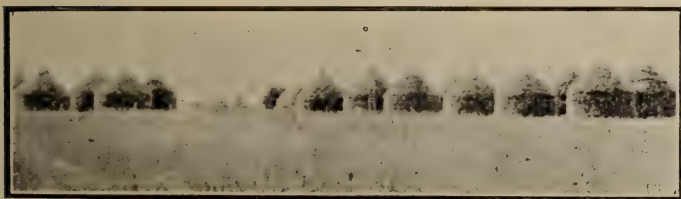
Total crop area, 1905, 415,917 acres.

Total crop area, 1904, 298,433 acres.

NOTE.—All yields shown are from threshers' measure and not by weight.



Cutting Oats on Farm of Mr. Wm. McAllister, Louisville, Alta.



Grain Stacks on Farm of Mr. G. R. Skinner, Bowden.



Grain Elevators at Wetaskiwin.

**GRASSES AND CLOVERS.**—Owing to the fact that so much native hay may be had for the cutting, but little attention has been paid to the cultivation of grasses and clovers suitable for hay crops. Of recent years, however, large yields of timothy, brome and western rye grass have grown in the vicinities of the larger towns. On the newly broken ground the clovers do not seem to be successful, but once the excessive amount of nitrogen is worked out of the land the clovers then seem to take hold. Here and there fine patches of clover may now be found. The little white clover grows profusely all over the Province. Alsike has also been successfully grown. In various districts alfalfa clover has promised well. It, too, has been tried almost universally and is succeeding well. In the southern portion of the Province along the irrigation ditch a number of farmers are making a great success of it and steadily increasing the acreage laid down to it. There seems to be no reason why it should not be generally grown in all parts of the Province.



Vegetables of All Kinds do Well.

**GARDEN TRUCK.**—The new settler being necessarily engaged in breaking the land, and the other many duties connected with making a start and getting up a few buildings, does not find much time to devote to the preparation of ground for a garden. Among the older settlers there are found those who have been wise enough to give considerable attention to this important adjunct of the farm and invariably their success seems almost phenomenal. Vegetables of all kinds grow with the greatest readiness in the fertile soil, and if any doubt of the truthfulness





Ranch Home of Mr. F. D. Shaw, Cardston.



Winter Wheat on Sod, Southern Alberta.



Homestead of Mr. Camille David, Ferry Point.

of this statement existed it would be quickly dispelled by a visit to any of the fall fairs. The profusion of vegetables to be seen would be a revelation. The black surface soil is a perfect garden earth and only requires a little tickling to produce an abundance of table vegetables. The cool nights are ideal for the filling of roots such as turnips and mangels. These grow to an enormous size, and there is no reason why every farmer cannot have an abundance of these desirable winter foods for his stock as well as for his own table. There is no trouble in growing lettuce, onions, radish, turnips, beets, carrots, beans, peas, tomatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, parsnips, and in fact all the well known vegetables.



A Homesteader's Potatoes, Southern Alberta.

**SMALL FRUITS.**—As mentioned previously all the small fruits are found growing in profusion in a wild state, consequently those who have tried the cultivated varieties have been most successful with them. So far no one has attempted to grow them on a large scale commercially, but this will come; in the meantime there is no excuse for every farmer not having sufficient of all the small fruits for his own use. In one or two instances the cultivated strawberry has been grown on a large scale. One farmer in Southern Alberta at Lethbridge on the irrigation ditch has been very successful and a photo is presented of this patch. Another man near Ponoka has also made a success of them commercially.

**LARGER FRUITS.**—Of the large fruits it is just a little early to speak, but here and there from one end of the Province to the other farmers have been persistently trying the larger fruits. The results have been that here and there a single tree, perhaps more, has survived and lived through to bear fruit. A few men have been able to grow quite a small orchard. There is thus a hope that the large fruits will ultimately be grown once the right varieties are known and the proper methods of handling the trees. With this object in view the Government has established some eight or ten different fruit experimental stations in different sections of the Province. It will not be many years until Alberta will be growing her own fruit instead of importing it from British Columbia.



Picking Strawberries, Farm of Mr. W. H. Fairfield, Lethbridge.



Tomato Vines at Rosenthal.



## MIXED FARMING.

Alberta is essentially a mixed farming country. In the past transportation facilities have mitigated against the rapid advancement of exclusive grain growing. This situation is rapidly changing, but will be dealt with under the heading of trans-



Farm Buildings of Mr. C. H. Swanson, Wetaskiwin.

portation. The fact remains, however, that the farmers of the central portion of the Province have their horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry and dairying products, besides their grain,—and, what is more to the point, have been making money out of them. They are, therefore, loath to give them up, and rightly so, because they have a wider sphere of work and their eggs are not all in one basket.

In the southern portion more attention has been given to grain, yet it is the home of the cattle ranching industry and will yet turn to mixed farming, though now the inducements to bring a large area quickly under the plow are too tempting to be resisted.



Parade Clydesdale Horses, Cardston.

## HORSES.

For more than twenty years the horses from the Southern Alberta ranges have been held in high repute throughout the world. When the call was made for remounts for the Boer War,

Alberta supplied her share; and those sent proved the best of all that were obtained. The limestone formations, the dry, bright atmosphere and luxuriant grasses produce a quality and stamina not met with elsewhere. Breeders are introducing pure bred sires,—Clydesdales, Percherons, Shires, Suffolks, Thoroughbreds, Hackneys and Standard Breds, and a wonderful improvement is being made. The wild broncho is fast disappearing and his place is being taken by a heavy class of horse that makes excellent farm horses, and the heavier of them find a suitable place on city drays. If a person wants to see good horses take a look at the heavy draft teams on the streets of the towns. These form a sure indication of the character of the horse flesh of the Province. The breeders are organized and hold an excellent spring horse show at Calgary. Breeders of pure bred stock have been most enterprising, bringing in an excellent class of sires and numerous females as well.



The Shorthorn Champion of Alberta.

## CATTLE.

Southern Alberta has been the home of the cattle industry because it was possible for stock to run out the year round, and the animals frequently came in in the spring fat enough to go to the butcher. The settler is fast driving this industry out of its old grounds, however, and the large herds are being sold off or moved farther north and east. An occasional man was fore-



Range Cattle near Lethbridge.



Pure Bred Herefords, Farm of James Tough, Edmonton.



Pure Bred Shorthorn Bulls at Spring Sale of Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association.



handed enough to purchase a large tract of land when it could be had very cheaply instead of being satisfied with a small holding and leasing the balance. These men will continue in the business for a time but will gradually drop out and dispose of their holdings.

In the central portions of the Province the cattle have frequently to be stabled a part of the time or fed in corrals as the snow sometimes becomes too deep for the animals to successfully reach sufficient grass. This is not always the case but has always to be provided for. In the Peace River country less snow usually falls there than in the more timbered districts in the central portion of the Province, and here again stock usually spend the winter outside.



Lacombe Pure Bred Bulls for Association Sale at Calgary.

Where the cattle range in open country an allowance of from 15 to 20 acres is made to supply food for a single animal. It can readily be seen that the ordinary farmer on a quarter or half section can readily support a larger number of stock than the land carried under range conditions and still grow grain. The cattle industry is thus bound to increase. The large amount of wild hay that can be secured makes the preparation of the winter's food supply an easy matter, besides this timothy, brome and western rye grasses do well. Roots such as turnips, mangels, carrots, etc., do remarkably well.

The range cattle breeders are banded together in what is called the Western Stock Growers' Association with headquarters at Macleod. The breeders of pure bred cattle have an organization called the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association. This organization holds an annual spring show, bull sale and fat stock show. The bull sale has become one of the biggest institutions of its kind on the continent. The breeders have shown great enterprise in importing good animals to place at the head of their herds as well as securing choice females as breeding stock. The breeds best represented within the Province are the Short-horns and Herefords. There are also a few herds of Polled Angus and Galloways. A few Jerseys, Holsteins, and Ayrshires are being introduced, and the numbers of these are very likely to increase as more attention is given to dairying.

Quite a few animals are now fattened during the winter and sold in the spring. This work is proving profitable and is bound to increase from year to year.

With the increasing population there is a correspondingly greater demand for beef for home consumption, and to meet this demand several quite large abattoirs have been erected. The largest of these is at Calgary, though as large a one is in course of erection at Edmonton. The surplus cattle are exported, some to British Columbia points, the Yukon and others to Winnipeg and the tops to Great Britain. Prices have been very remunerative.

### SHEEP.

The close fine herbage of the prairies proves to be excellent sheep feed. Several large bands are run in various portions of the Province and have been giving most handsome returns. One band gave profits of 50, 65, and 80 per cent. respectively for the last three years. The winters are fine for sheep and there is no drawback other than the attacks of coyotes or prairie wolves. These are sometimes troublesome, but a good wolf



Sheep Ranch, Southern Alberta.

hound and a little care overcomes this trouble. Small bandy are springing into existence all over the Province.

The market for lambs and mutton is not nearly met by the local supply, consequently prices are always good. The prices for wool have always been fair and recently the large sheep men have started wool sales for the disposal of their clip. Woollen mills in various parts of the Province manufacture a portion of the wool clip.

### HOGS.

The ease with which coarse grains can be raised makes it possible to raise hogs at a good profit. All breeds have been fairly well represented. Settlers from the States bring in the breeds they have been familiar with, but frequently have to abandon them when a change of sires is necessary owing to the difficulty of securing sires of the lard breeds. The Berkshire,



Shorthorn Herd, Sharpe Bros., near Lacombe.



Range Cattle.



Grain Stooks on Farm of Mr. R. McCarter, Wetaskiwin.



Yorkshire, Tamworth and Chester White are the leading breeds, with possibly the first mentioned as the most popular. The demand for pork products is much in excess of the local supply and large quantities of cured meats are shipped in from Chicago. Packing houses are now established at Edmonton, Strathcona and Calgary. The steady demand for hogs by these houses should do much to put the market on an excellent basis. In the past the market has been fluctuating, nevertheless those farmers who have steadily continued to raise a nice bunch of hogs have made well out of them.



Senator Talbot's Barn, Lacombe.

## POULTRY.

Investigation has shown that the same conditions which make it possible for turkeys and prairie chicken to thrive in a wild state are the very conditions to make poultry raising more profitable here than in almost any other place in the world. The clear dry air makes a splendid climate for raising poultry. The occasional cold spells are no detriment, as poultry will stand considerable cold, particularly if in the atmosphere there is an absence of moisture and the roosting quarters are warm. The mining districts of the Province of British Columbia to the west require large supplies of eggs and poultry. The market for these products is almost unlimited, and large supplies have to be imported even to meet the demands of our own Province. In order to encourage farmers to take advantage of this market the Provincial Government established a number of stations at which the best methods of fattening and preparing poultry for

market were demonstrated. These have given a great impetus to poultry raising, and it bids fair to be one of the most profitable lines of farm work. This is of particular advantage to the homesteader, as it affords an avenue from which quick returns can be obtained until the regular work of the farm can be established. It need not stop there, but can continue to be a revenue producer, and thus have a larger margin of profit. During the winter months fresh eggs usually bring from 40 to 60 cents per dozen and eggs seldom go below 25 cents per dozen when most plentiful.

## DAIRYING.

The Province is somewhat unique in so far as dairying is concerned, for the Government undertakes to manage the creameries on a large co-operative scale. At the present time there are nearly two dozen creameries working on these lines. An officer of the Government, the Dairy Commissioner, has charge of the work and controls the buttermakers. The Government manufactures the butter, keeps it in cold storage and sells it to the best advantage. The result of this co-operation has been



Lacombe Creamery.

the building up of an extensive business. The output of all the creameries can be shipped together in one lot because so uniform in quality, colour, etc., the natural sequence where all the buttermakers work under one direction. The result of this system of co-operation has been that the price paid the patrons at the creamery for their butter has averaged  $21\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound. Besides the creameries under Government supervision there are a number of private ones, and a few cheese factories. Dairying has always played an important part in the agricultural work of the Province and will continue to do so because the summer

pasture is excellent; there is an abundance of feed for winter and the plentiful supply of fresh water makes the central portion of the Province an ideal land for dairying and mixed farming. Seven of the Government creameries operate all winter.

Besides the creameries there is a large amount of butter made on farms, for which there is an unsatisfied market in the towns. During the winter season good dairy butter brings forty cents a pound.



A Dairy Herd.

In the outlying districts where settlement is sparse the Government sends a travelling dairy to give instructions in the best methods of handling the milk and its products. Throughout the country the cream separator is in general use, and where the settler is unable to purchase one, the cream can be raised in deep pails, as cold water is abundant. The presence of numerous streams and lakes of pure water gives an opportunity of securing an excellent supply of ice.

### SUGAR BEETS.

At Raymond in Southern Alberta the Knight Sugar Co. have spent half a million dollars in the erection and equipment of a refinery for manufacturing sugar from sugar beets. The company grows a large acreage themselves, while nearly every farmer has a considerable acreage devoted to beets. In 1906 this factory produced 4,600,000 pounds of sugar. The soil is particularly adapted to the growth of the sugar beet, producing a beet with two per cent. higher saccharine content than is produced in any of the States to the south or elsewhere in Canada. The



long hours of sunshine combined with the cool nights make ideal conditions for their growth. Irrigation ditches run through the district and water is used by some farmers. Others again use no water, but depend upon a thorough system of tillage having for its object the conservation of soil moisture. It is a remarkable fact that the beets containing the highest percentage of saccharine matter have generally been grown without irrigation, and very frequently the highest yields have also been obtained by the same means of cultivation.



Irrigating Sugar Beets at Raymond.

Experiments have been made in other districts and the fact established that the whole of the southern portion of the Province is adapted to growing sugar beets. There is talk of another refinery being built in the neighbourhood of Calgary where another irrigation ditch serves an immense tract of land. The Provincial Government gives a bounty of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent per pound of sugar manufactured during the first three years' existence of a refinery, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent for the two succeeding years. This bounty is given on condition that one half of it goes to the farmer and that certain stipulated prices are paid for sugar beets.

### TIMBER.

The eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains are well covered with timber of sufficient size for commercial purposes. This timber follows the streams and valleys out from the mountains in many places for quite a distance. In the park country, which covers the most of the central and northern portions of the Province, considerable timber is found fit for commercial purposes; and numerous saw mills exist, principally on the streams and

rivers running from the mountains. The logs are floated down these streams from the timber limits and are held in booms at the various mills. The lumber from these mills, together with the product of the British Columbia mills, which can be obtained at well stocked yards in every town, puts lumber within the reach of all.

The homesteader is allowed to cut a certain amount of lumber from Government land for building purposes. Spruce, poplar, birch, pine and fir are the different woods cut for commercial purposes. In the park country there is ample timber of sufficient size for the construction of log buildings, and in many districts miles and miles of rail fencing are to be found. There is also an abundance of wood for fuel in the same districts. These conditions make it very easy for the homesteader to get started.



Scene on Red Deer River near Canyon.

On the open prairie trees grow very readily and the Dominion Government have established a large nursery for the propagation of trees, which are given to settlers free provided they comply with certain conditions regarding cultivating and caring for the trees. In this way wind-breaks around farm buildings are springing up rapidly, and it will not be long before the open prairie will be converted into a park country. Once the trees become established and fires are prevented from touching them the growth is simply wonderful.

#### MINERALS.

Owing to no systematic examination having been made the extent of the mineral wealth is not definitely known. Sufficient has been found out, however, to demonstrate in no mistakable

way that the Province is exceedingly rich in minerals. Fresh discoveries are continually being made and each succeeding year is bound to bring the Province to the front on account of the richness of its minerals. One development firm in boring for oil in the northern portion of the Province went through over fifty feet of rock salt.

**COAL.**—Outputs of coal appear on the banks of almost every stream, and shafts sunk in different places away from the streams almost invariably pass through seams of varying thickness. These facts have led scientists to assert that almost the whole area is underlaid with coal. It is so universal in its distribution over the Province and so easily mined that a coal strike can have little effect upon the price. Even in the wooded sections the coal is so readily obtained that it is used in preference to wood. Along the eastern slope of the mountain anthracite coal of a high quality is being mined, and outcrops of this coal have been found as far north as the Yellowhead Pass in a direct line west of Edmonton. It is thought that the formation continues farther north. The coal found on the banks of the rivers is a lignite of excellent quality.

Large shipping mines have been opened at Lethbridge, Taber and at a number of points in the edge of the mountains on the Crows Nest Pass Railway in the south. West of Calgary on the Canadian Pacific Railway there are a number of large shipping mines. In the neighbourhood of Edmonton there are numerous mines on the banks of the Saskatchewan, quite a number of which are shipping coal. Small mines supplying coal for local consumption are numerous in various portions of the Province. At all mines provision is made to supply settlers with coal at cost at the pit mouth. Coal can usually be obtained for \$1 per ton in this way. To the west of Edmonton enormous deposits of coal have been found, and outcrops are reported in the Smoky River, Peace River and other districts in the northern portion of the Province, to which access is still somewhat difficult but which give promise of being exceedingly fine farming sections in the near future.

**GOLD.**—The sands of the Saskatchewan and other mountain streams return to the labourer with the gold pan more than fair wages. Some years ago a dredge was working in the vicinity of Edmonton. Different areas in the foot hills have been producing rich quartz and every year appear reports of new discoveries of this wealth. The latest report is a find in the Yellowhead Pass, in the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway survey, which promises as rich returns as any yet discovered anywhere. A later discovery is to the effect that the river sands contain that rarest of minerals, platinum, and a dredge is being built to extract it. The country tributary to the Smoky River has been known for many years as a land bearing gold. The early traders used to frequently bring back gold nuggets picked up in the ashes of their camp fires.



**NATURAL GAS.**—The town of Medicine Hat has been lighted and heated with natural gas for several years, the gas being supplied at a cost of fifteen cents per thousand cubic feet. It is allowed to burn in the street lamps all day, because it is more expensive to turn it out and light it again than to reduce the pressure and let it burn. The country lying to the north of Edmonton is thought to contain plenty of gas.

**OIL.**—Oil has been found in paying quantities in several places in the foot hills in that portion of the Province tributary to Pincher Creek and a refinery is now at work. In a number of places in the north there is every indication of oil. Experts have been over the ground, staked claims and several companies are preparing to take up development work, while others have started and are meeting with great encouragement. Experts declare that the northern oil fields are the equal of those of California.

**TAR SANDS.**—In the northern portion of the Province on the Athabasca River immense beds of tar sands have been found. One expert stated there was enough asphaltum there to pave the streets of the world. It can be manufactured for paving purposes at small cost and only awaits the advent of a railway to be available. Outcrops of these sands have also been found in a number of places to the east of Edmonton.

**MARL AND CLAY.**—Extensive beds of marl have been found in various parts of the Province suitable for the manufacture of cement. Already one large cement mill has been established at Calgary and another is under way not far from Calgary. West and north of Edmonton there are large deposits of suitable marl, and once the district is opened up by the railways now under construction through it, cement factories are sure to follow.

Excellent beds of clay for manufacturing brick are general, and nearly every town is supplied with brick yards. A few places have pressed brick plants.

Good building stone is not abundant at present, but as the country becomes more settled stone will be found, no doubt, in many places least expected. There is a quarry of excellent stone at Calgary, and west of Edmonton along the banks of the Saskatchewan River enormous beds of excellent building stone have been found.

## TRANSPORTATION AND MARKETS.

The early fur traders reached the country by dog train and canoe. The Red River cart, steam boat and prairie schooner carried in the baggage and families of the early settlers. In 1883 the Canadian Pacific Railway connected the Province with both oceans, and later branch lines were built north and south and another line into the mountains from Medicine Hat. In

1905 the country tributary to Edmonton was directly connected with the East by the Canadian Northern Railway. The opening up of these new railways means a great deal for the farmer, as it will afford him much greater opportunities of marketing his products. Once the new transcontinental lines have been completed to the coast, it will give a great stimulus to grain growing in the northern portion of the Province, as there is bound to be a big trade with the Orient in flour and wheat.

At the present most of the grain grown goes east via Winnipeg and the Great Lakes. Large mills have been erected at Calgary and Edmonton for grinding wheat. Small mills are springing up all over. At all railway stations elevators have been erected for handling the grain. Where there are no elevators there are loading platforms so that the farmers can load their grain into cars. In fact these platforms have been erected at nearly every station, and if a farmer is not satisfied with the price offered by the elevator he can obtain a car, load it at the loading platform and ship it to the terminal elevators at the Great Lakes. It is graded by the Dominion Government official appointed for that purpose at Winnipeg, before going into the terminal elevator. Once the grade and weight are received by him in the form of a storage ticket, he can sell his grain through a commission agent at Winnipeg. Once the storage tickets are in his possession he can raise money on them at any bank, and hold his grain or have the bank dispose of it for him. Farmers are shipping this way constantly and they find it to their advantage to do so. The law compels the railway companies to erect a loading platform on the application of ten farmers, and if the farmer registers his name in a book for the purpose, he must be supplied with a car in turn as his name is reached on the order book. In this he ranks with the elevator. It is thus readily seen that with the shipping privileges the farmer enjoys, and with the Government inspection of his grain, he is in a position to obtain the full value of the fruits of his toil.

There are two large oatmeal mills in the Province, and recently two firms have established factories for the manufacture of macaroni and breakfast foods. Several biscuit factories have been established, and gradually all those manufacturing firms which use grain as their raw product will find their way here.

In order to facilitate the movement of grain to market the Provincial Government is spending large sums of money in the opening up of new roads, the improvement of existing roads and trails, and the building of bridges, etc. In the older settled portions the roads are now in excellent condition.

## IRRIGATION.

According to the classification of land given under the section devoted to rainfall the whole of the Province may be considered as semi-arid. This may sound serious at first but it is not so. The great proportion of the rain coming when the crops are

growing insures as a rule an abundant harvest. With an intelligent system of cultivation aimed to make the best use of the rainfall no fear need ever be entertained of any shortage of moisture. In order to make sure that there would be no danger from this source a number of irrigation ditches have been constructed. Some of the earlier companies have become defunct because irrigation was found unnecessary. The two largest ditches now in the Province are those constructed by the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company with headquarters at Lethbridge, and the Canadian Pacific Irrigation and Colonization Company, Limited, at Calgary.

The water for the ditch of the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company is taken from the St. Mary's River some seventy miles above Lethbridge, and waters a fine stretch of land, settled largely by Mormons from the State of Utah. Many of these settlers have abandoned the use of water, believing that it is not necessary. Others have held their water rights believing it a good safeguard, and find beneficial results from a judicious use of water.



Breaking at Daysland.

The Canadian Pacific Irrigation and Colonization Company, of Calgary, is the largest irrigation scheme on the continent involving an area of 3,000,000 acres. The water is taken from the Bow River at Calgary and is carried for many miles to the east. A system of reservoirs has been arranged out of some natural depressions and the whole scheme laid out in a most scientific manner. Much work has already been done on the ditches which lie to the east of Calgary along the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The land tributary to the ditch is being rapidly sold, settlers are moving in and a few years will see a wonderful change in this section of the Province.



To the west of Medicine Hat at the junction of the Bow and Belly Rivers another large irrigation scheme is being started.

The Government has appointed an instructor to move around among the settlers on the irrigation ditches, to give instructions in the methods of using water, etc. In the central and northern portions of the Province the rainfall is ample for growing all kinds of crops. The settler has thus a chance to choose the district he would like to settle in. If he prefers to locate on land tributary to an irrigation ditch he can find many choice locations.

### SHOOTING AND FISHING.

With the variety and luxuriance of vegetation which abounds in the Province it is to be naturally expected that game of all kinds would be abundant. When the agents of the fur trading companies first came to the country they found the plains covered with myriads of buffalo and antelope, smaller herds of wild horses, and the woods full of wild deer, caribou and moose. With



A Two Days' Sport South of Vermilion.

these herbivorous animals there were also the carnivorous ones, —prairie wolves, timber wolves, lynx and bear. The rivers, streams and lakes supplied martin, mink and beaver as well as a plentitude of fish, geese, ducks and loons. Wild turkey, prairie chicken and wood grouse were a few of the many varieties of bird life, making the plains and the woods, the ponds and the streams, a very Eden for the sportsman.

Civilization has cleared away the buffalo, and all that remains of them now is an occasional head lying bleaching on the prairie.

In the National Park at Banff is to be found a small herd, for many the sole surviving representatives of the countless members that formerly roamed the plains. Recently an additional herd has been established east of Edmonton, and the likelihood is that there will soon be a few more herds established. In the northern part of the Province there is still quite a herd of the wood buffalo in the wild state.



A Day's Sport, Beaver Lake.

Moose, elk, caribou and deer still abound in large numbers in the Rocky Mountains and in the wooded country north of the North Saskatchewan. Antelope run in bands on the open plains to the south and are frequently seen from the car windows.

The southern portion of the Province is becoming somewhat denuded of water fowl. Farther north the water fowl are found in abundance, and as the open season extends from the 23rd of August till the close of the year there is ample opportunity to obtain good bags. Prairie chicken are becoming scarce and shooting has been prohibited for a year to allow of replenishment. When properly protected this game bird should increase with the increase of the grain fields. A little north of Edmonton the wild country begins where there is a huge district well stocked with game. The same may be said of the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, which is the place to go in search of bears, —grizzly, cinnamon, silver tip and black. Mountain sheep and goats are also to be had but a guide is usually necessary for this game. These can be had at any of the railway stations in the mountains.

## NORTHERN ALBERTA.

Fully three-quarters of the Province is still in a state of nature. The eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains and a great tract of land to the west and north of Edmonton still awaits the explorer and settler. Trading posts and pioneer settlements



View of the Peace River Valley.

have been made at scattered points and sufficient cultivation done to establish the fact that the soil is equally as fertile as that farther south and the climate no severer. In fact it is generally considered that the climate is not so severe. The snow



Wheat in Stook on the Peace River.

fall is generally less than in the Edmonton district. It is a park country with possibly two-thirds of the land ready for the plow. The grasses cure on the ground and afford excellent feed for the stock which range out all winter. Reference to any good map



shows that the Rocky Mountains tend to meet the coast line the farther north one goes. They are also lower and the warm currents of the Pacific Ocean exercise a beneficial effect upon



Oats on Farm of Mr. Sheridan Lawrence, Fort Vermilion.

the whole north country. The Grand Prairie country is a magnificent tract of land only awaiting a railway. At Peace River there is a growing settlement. It may be well to mention again that grain from this district captured a first prize at the World's



Wheat Field on Peace River at Fort Vermilion.

Fair at Chicago in 1893. There are several stone grist mills in this district.

Three hundred miles down the Peace River from this point is Fort Vermilion, where there is quite a settlement. One farmer

has over two hundred and fifty acres in crop this year. Wheat is the staple crop, and there are two stone and one roller mills to grind the product which finds its way farther north. Pure bred stock is now being taken into the district, the settler is rushing in and soon this land will no longer be the home of the trapper and fur trader.

As already mentioned this northern country is rich in minerals and wealth awaits the man who explores and finds its hidden resources. One naturally expects that the farther north one goes the more severe the climate. Somehow or other the same idea prevails with regard to going west. Because the centre of the continent is cold and the country tributary to the Red River has a long severe winter, that it must necessarily be more severe the farther west one goes is not true. On the contrary



Homestead of Mr. Sheridan Lawrence, Fort Vermilion.

the shelter of the Rocky Mountains and the tempering warm winds of the Pacific Ocean make the climate of Alberta a delightful one. This has been recognized of the southern portion of the Province and is equally true of the northern part. Any map showing the northern line of growth of trees and cereals, shows a wonderful curve to the north taking in the whole of Northern Alberta. The same is true of isothermal lines. A surveyor who recently went down the Mackenzie River Valley stated on his return that wheat could be grown a thousand miles north of Edmonton.

Regular lines of steamers ply on the Athabasca and Peace Rivers, and by using the waterways it is possible to make a most enjoyable and instructive pleasure trip through the north country. It is regularly taken by those in search of adventure

and those studying the flora and fauna of the district. Recently a lady novelist from France made a trip in search of new material for a story.

### RAILWAY LANDS.

The Canadian Pacific Railway lands consist of the odd-numbered sections along the main line and branches, and the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River districts in Alberta. For the convenience of investors, maps showing in detail the lands and prices have been prepared and will be sent free to applicants. Apply to F. T. Griffin, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg, or to any local station agent.

The Calgary and Edmonton Land Company has a land grant of odd-numbered sections in the territory lying along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, consisting of fine agricultural and ranching land. These sections are for sale by the



Homestead on the Peace River.

company, without cultivation or residential conditions. Agents: Osler, Hammond & Nanton, 381 Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.; or C. S. Lott, Calgary, Alberta.

The Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company has an extensive land grant in the southern portion of the Province, tributary to their irrigation ditch, at prices varying with location. Apply to the Land Commissioner, Lethbridge.

Hudson's Bay Company's lands comprise one-twentieth part of all the fertile belt, and in the surveyed townships consist of section 8 and three-fourths of section 26 in each township. The terms for these can be obtained on application to the Hudson's Bay Company's Land Office, Winnipeg, Man.; or Edmonton, Alberta.



Further information respecting Alberta will be gladly furnished upon application to:

Hon. W. T. Finlay, Minister of Agriculture, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada;

W. D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Ont., Canada;

J. O. Smith, Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man., Canada;

Or to the Agent of Dominion Lands at any of the following points: Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Red Deer.



Breaking on the Peace River.

## HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

Entry may be made by any male over 18 years of age or a widow with minor children depending upon her, for one quarter of any unoccupied even-numbered section of land personally, at the local land office for the district in which the land to be taken is situate; or if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Local Agent for the district in which the land is situate, receive authority for a father, mother, brother or sister to make entry for him. A fee of \$10.00 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry.

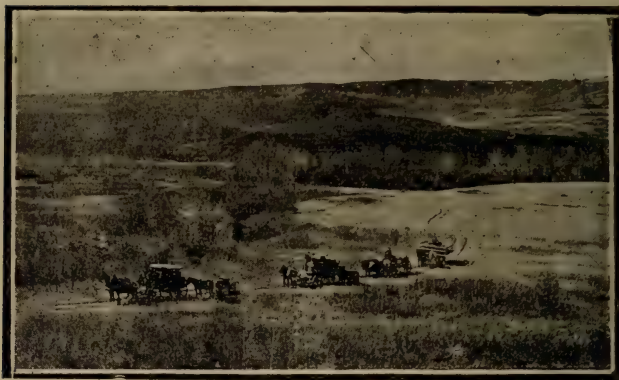
A settler who has been granted an entry for a homestead is required by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act and the amendments thereto to perform the conditions connected therewith, under one of the following plans:

(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year during the term of three years.

It is the practice of the department to require a settler to bring 15 acres under cultivation, but if he prefers he may substitute



A Homesteader's Sod House, near Vermilion.



On the Way to Homestead South of Vermilion.



Same outfit One Week after Arrival.

stock; and 20 head of cattle, to be actually his own property, with buildings for their accommodation, will be accepted instead of the cultivation.

(2) If the father (or mother, if the father is deceased) of any person who is eligible to make a homestead entry under the provisions of this Act resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered for by such person as a homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother.

(3) If a settler was entitled to and has obtained entry for a second homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by residence upon the first homestead, if the second homestead is in the vicinity of the first homestead.



Roller Mill, Hudson Bay Company, Fort Vermilion.

(4) If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements of this Act as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon the said land.

NOTE.—The term “vicinity” used above is meant to indicate the same township or an adjoining or cornering township.

A settler who avails himself of the provisions of Clauses (2) (3) or (4) must cultivate 30 acres of his homestead, or substitute 20 head of stock, with buildings for their accommodation, and have besides 80 acres substantially fenced.

The privilege of a second entry is restricted by law to those settlers only who completed the duties upon their first homesteads to entitle them to patent on or before the 2nd of June, 1889.



## OPPORTUNITIES.

In a country so vast in extent, so varied in formation, so rich in soil, timber and minerals, so open for settlement and possessing such a magnificent climate, there is no question of the opportunities it affords the prospective settler.

Do you like farming? There is practically an unlimited choice of free grant lands, with soil second to none in the world, with splendid educational facilities, with fuel and building material ready to hand and with markets ready for everything that can be produced.

Are you a miner? The mineral wealth of the Province has hardly been touched and the crying question of mine operators is for men. The great salt beds and oil and gas wells have really not opened up yet, and neither have the deposits of asphalt, copper and iron. The mining engineer has his life work well laid out, who plans investigation in any of the many minerals of the Province.

Have you capital? Mines are waiting to be opened up, people are calling for "made at home" articles, and business opportunities are to be found on every hand. Over ninety per cent. of the land is still in a wild state and railroads are awaiting construction. These conditions give better opportunities than anywhere else in the world for profitable investment of capital.

Alberta is new and rich. She always presents a surprise to the visitor. To see her is to desire to live in her sunny clime and partake of the opportunities she offers.

Alberta is the land of opportunity to-day to bring out the true worth that is in a man,—the land above all others which gives him a chance to climb.

This is *Your* opportunity.









